

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for integrating time division duplex (TDD) and frequency division duplex (FDD) in wireless communication systems, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving radio access bearer (RAB) requests at a radio network controller (RNC) along with a plurality of parameters regarding the request;

estimating at the RNC a degree of symmetry in uplink (UL) and downlink (DL) connections required to support communication associated with the RAB requests;

selecting either a TDD or FDD connection based on the estimated symmetry of the UL and DL connections.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein TDD connection is selected for RAB requests having data rates above a predetermined threshold.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein FDD connection is selected for RAB requests associated with voice applications.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
evaluating a symmetry status of the UL and DL connections periodically once an initial connection has been established in response to a RAB request; and  
switching between TDD and FDD modes based on said symmetry status.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein all RAB requests are processed through a FDD RNC.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5 wherein only the FDD RNC is connected to a core network through an Iu interface, and a TDD RNC is indirectly connected to the core network through the FDD RNC.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the FDD RNC performs all call connections and disconnections.

8. (Original) A system for integrating TDD and FDD in a communication system, the system comprising:

a core network (CN);  
a time division duplex radio network controller (TDD RNC);  
a frequency division duplex radio network controller (FDD RNC); and,  
a TDD-FDD selector for receiving a RAB request and estimating symmetry status of uplink (UL) and downlink (DL) connections that is required to support the RAB assignment request, and making a decision to assign radio resources in either TDD mode or FDD mode based on the estimated symmetry status.

9. (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein a TDD connection is selected for RAB requests having data rates above a predetermined threshold.

10. (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein a FDD connection is selected for RAB requests associated with voice applications.

11. (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein the TDD RNC, the FDD RNC, and the TDD-FDD selector are integrated into an integrated TDD/FDD RNC.

12. (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein the FDD RNC includes a TDD serving radio network controller (S-RNC) and is configured to support TDD Iur protocols.

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13. (Original) The system of claim 12 wherein only the CN and the FDD RNC are connected via an Iu interface and RAB requests are processed through the FDD RNC.